

Message Text

SECRET

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14-11
ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-14 IO-03 IGA-01 SSO-00 INRE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3303
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMCONSUL ASMARA
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

S E C R E T ABIDJAN 4033

LIMDIS

EO 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: OVIP (DAVIS, NATHANIEL), PFOR, XA, GH
SUBJ: TRAVEL OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS: MEETING WITH ACHEAMPONG
REF: ACCRA 3002 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: ASST SEC DAVIS AND AMBASSADOR BLACK MET
WITH COLONEL ACHEAMPONG, CHAIRMAN OF GHANA'S NATIONAL
REDEMPTION COUNCIL MAY 12. DISCUSSIONS DEALT WITH US
ASSISTANCE TO GHANA, AFRICAN PROBLEMS INCLUDING SOUTHERN
AFRICAN ISSUES, ERITREA, UPPER VOLTA-MALI BORDER
DISPUTE AND GHANA'S DEVELOPMENT PLANS, STRIVING TOWARD SELF-
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RELIANCE. END SUMMARY.

2. ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS AND AMBASSADOR BLACK CALLED ON COLONEL IGNATIUS KUTU ACHEAMPONG, CHAIRMAN OF GHANA'S NATIONAL REDEMPTION COUNCIL (NDC), AT HIS MILITARY COMPOUND RESIDENCE MAY 12. COLONEL ROBERT KOTEI, ACTING COMMISSIONER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WAS ALSO PRESENT.

3. AFTER WELCOMING DAVIS, WHO RESPONDED BY COMPLIMENTING ACHEAMPONG ON GHANA'S PROGRESS SINCE HIS LAST VISIT ELEVEN YEARS AGO, THE CHAIRMAN DESCRIBED THE NDC'S PROGRAM FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF GHANA, BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-RELIANCE. ACHEAMPONG EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR US ASSISTANCE TO GHANA OVER THE YEARS, STATING HIS HOPE THAT IT WOULD CONTINUE, CONSISTENT WITH HIS GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF ACCEPTING AID NOT ACCCOMPANIED BY INTERFERENCE. DAVIS ASSURED ACHEAMPONG THAT PROJECTED US AID PROGRAMS FOR THE COMING YEAR DID INCLUDE GHANA AND THAT THE US WISHED TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN GHANA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THROUGH TRADE, INVESTMENT, AND AID COMPATIBLE WITH GHANAIAN AND US POLICIES.

4. AFRICAN ISSUES DISCUSSED INCLUDED SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES, INCLUDING RHODESIA, ERITREA, AND MALI-UPPER VOLTA BORDER DISPUTE. DAVIS OUTLINED US POSITIONS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. ACHEAMPONG COMMENTED THE US "COULD DO MORE" TO BRING ABOUT PROGRESS ON RHODESIAN AND OTHER SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES WITHOUT BEING SPECIFIC. HE ALSO URGED US TO PUSH BRITISH TO BE MORE ACTIVE IN SEEKING RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT. ACHEAMPONG SPECULATED THAT ERITREAN PROBLEM IN ETHIOPIA WAS ON WAY TO SOLUTION. QUOTE: AFRICANS DON'T FIGHT LONG. UNQUOTE. (HE DID NOT GIVE IMPRESSION OF BEING VERY CLOSELY INFORMED). HE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN RELIEF AND REHABILITATION EFFORTS UNDERWAY THERE. IN RESPONSE TO DAVIS QUESTION REGARDING HIS GOVERNMENT'S VIEW AS INTERESTED NEIGHBOR OF NEXT STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO DEFUSE UPPER-VOLTA-MALI BORDER DISPUTE, ACHEAMPONG NOTED THAT QUOTE: SOME RAINS HAD ALREADY FALLEN. UNQUOTE. HE THEN DISCUSSED SAHEL RELIEF, REHABILITATION AND POSSIBILITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT.

5. CHAIRMAN ACHEAMPONG'S PREOCCUPATION THAT EMERGED
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IN CONVERSATION IS WITH PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVING GHANA'S INTERNAL ASPIRATIONS. HIS GOVERNMENT IS PRINCIPALLY CONCERNED WITH ACHIEVING SELF-RELIANCE IN FOOD, INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, AND IN OTHER SECTORS, WHILE PRESERVING INTERNAL PEACE OF THE COUNTRY. HE PERCEIVES AN AMERICAN ROLE IN THAT PROGRESS, THROUGH A MIXTURE OF AID, TRADE, AND INVESTMENT, CONSISTANT WITH HIS COUNTRY'S EXPERIENCE AND PLANS.

SMITH

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